

United States Army at Fort Ord near Monterey, California. In 1960, he married the love of his life, Barbara Erickson, and together they raised four children: Chris, Sheryl, Lori and Karen.

Community service played an important role in Walt's life. As a Veteran, he served on the Fresno Chamber's Military Affairs Committee, Selective Service Board, National Guard Commission and the Association of the U.S. Army. Walt was also elected to the Sanger Unified School Board of Trustees, and served on the Fresno County Planning Commission, the Fresno Regional Foundation Board of Directors, and the Fresno Chamber Board, representing agriculture. In addition, Walt was an active member for the Sanger Lions Club and the Serbian Men's Club.

One of Walt's greatest passions was farming. A proud grape, plum and citrus farmer, he became active in the Fresno County Farm Bureau in the late 1970's. Walt was encouraged to join the FCFB by members of the Lone Star Center, specifically his brother, Bill. Walt was honored to serve as President of the Fresno County Farm Bureau from 1984–1986. His love of the Central Valley and agriculture made him an exemplary leader at the Farm Bureau and during his tenure, the organization grew to 7,900 members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Walter Vladimir Cucuk, one of Fresno's most distinguished farmers and a true champion for the people of the San Joaquin Valley. His leadership and community service made him a role model and a source of pride to our community. Walt's caring nature and vibrant spirit will be sorely missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JERRY MARKS AND MRS. WENDY MARKS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jerry Marks and Mrs. Wendy Marks, for their work in furthering issues of importance to the Jewish community. Their work has been instrumental in helping to build a more united Jewish commonality.

Originally from Brooklyn, both Mr. and Mrs. Marks moved to New Jersey to pursue a life of advocacy and philanthropy. However, their commitment goes further than just philanthropy, as both Mr. and Mrs. Marks have been involved with multiple organizations in an effort to promote issues of vital importance to the Jewish community. Their involvement with the Jewish community is most evident through their work with the Jewish Federation of Monmouth County, where both Mr. and Mrs. Marks have dedicated much of their time and efforts volunteering in different capacities. This includes Wendy's tenure as President of the Jewish Federation of Monmouth County, as well as Jerry's tenure as Vice President of Endowments. Both Mr. and Mrs. Marks have served on the board of directors for many years, and both have traveled extensively around the world as representatives of both the Jewish community and the Jewish Federation of Monmouth County. Both Mr. and Mrs. Marks have received recognition for their work by the Sons of Israel Congregation, and in

2010 Mrs. Marks received the Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland Award at the International Lion of Judah Conference in New Orleans which was established to recognize "Woman of Valor". Mr. and Mrs. Marks are proud parents and grandparents of four adult children and seven grandchildren, as well as members of Temple Shalom in Aberdeen. It is with great pleasure that I join the Jewish Family and Children's Service in recognizing the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Marks this evening.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in leading this body in recognizing Mr. and Mrs. Marks for their tremendous work on behalf of the Jewish community. Their dedication and commitment to Jewish philanthropy and advocacy is truly inspirational.

RECOGNIZING LGBT HISTORY MONTH

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, October is LGBT History Month, and I rise to pay tribute to the remarkable achievements of this vibrant community. LGBT History Month, which will last throughout the month of October, commemorates the history of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgender persons in addition to the history of gay rights movement.

I am proud to have supported the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," which was formally abolished by the military on September 20, 2011, after an orderly transition program prepared troops for the change without affecting force readiness or morale. Our nation is now stronger and our people are safer thanks to the sacrifices made by these brave Americans, who no longer need to choose between service and silence.

There have been other changes for the better under the Obama administration. In July 2011, President Obama and his administration concluded that a critical section of the Defense of Marriage Act is no longer constitutionally defensible. And, on June 24, 2011, the State of New York passed a law with bipartisan support extending the right to marry to gay and lesbian couples.

History, and progress, is also being made at the local level. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, one of the largest LGBT communities in the nation is located in the Los Angeles-Long Beach metropolitan area, which I am privileged to represent. This dynamic community is culturally diverse and economically and artistically vibrant. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize two LGBT leaders who helped to make this possible.

Jean Harris was a lifelong human rights activist who employed her uncanny talent for community organizing to electing open-minded city officials and defeating discriminatory legislation. A true force in California's LGBT community, she served as chair of the California Democratic Party's Lesbian/Gay Caucus, president of San Francisco's Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, and vice president of the Long Beach Lambda Democratic Club. Indeed, many local leaders and public servants across California owe their careers to her tireless advocacy. Jean Harris passed away on June 15, 2011.

In August 2011, I rose to pay tribute to the late Paul Duncan, the Director of Outreach for the Long Beach Community Business Network, who spent the last ten years of his life working tirelessly to connect local Long Beach employers to business organizations from Hawaii to Washington, DC. An advocate for economic empowerment of LGBT business owners and entrepreneurs, Mr. Duncan was known around the nation and beloved by the Long Beach community. He died suddenly of an aneurysm at a national conference where he was one of 70 affiliate leaders working for job creation and expanded economic opportunity for LGBT-owned businesses.

Mr. Speaker, progress is made through the efforts of courageous leaders like Jean and Paul; people who actively engage their communities and face adversity to ensure that the rights of all are clearly defined and protected.

People like the legendary Bayard Rustin, a leading strategist of the Civil Rights Movement and trusted advisor to Martin Luther King, Jr. An early proponent of nonviolent resistance, Rustin organized the 1947 Journey of Reconciliation which inspired the Freedom Rides of the 1960s and helped Dr. King organize the Southern Christian Leadership Conference which became the nerve center of the American Civil Rights Movement.

Bayard Rustin was a driving force behind the iconic 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom which brought national attention to the civil rights struggle and spurred the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voting Rights Act. He arranged the transportation, trained the marshals and oversaw all of the logistical details involved in putting on one of the most effective political demonstrations in world history and setting the stage for Dr. King's timeless "I Have a Dream" speech.

Later, Bayard Rustin worked to integrate all-white unions and became heavily involved in international humanitarian development and peacemaking. Openly gay, he became a public advocate for LGBT causes in the 1970s and passed away on a mission to Haiti in 1987.

Many great writers of the Harlem Renaissance, such as Countée Cullen and Bruce Nugent, were homosexual, and the contributions they made to literature are forever ingrained in the cultural fabric of America. Langston Hughes was probably the most well known, though he was an intensely private man and never spoke openly on the subject.

Billy Strayhorn was a musician and gifted composer whose 30-year collaboration with Duke Ellington resulted in some of the most indispensable music of the jazz age. Openly gay, Strayhorn participated in many civil rights causes and arranged a musical score for his friend, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1963.

James Baldwin is one of the great literary figures of the 20th century. The writings of this African-American explored issues of race and class and gender. He rose to prominence with the civil rights movement and worked to bridge the gap between the competing approaches of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Malcolm X, both of whom were his personal friends. His work and life had a profound impact on countless equality activists and writers.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to acknowledge the achievements of just a few of the countless number of Americans who defied the

odds and overcame prejudice and discrimination, and intolerance and worked to make everyone including America be a more welcoming place succeeding generations of LGBT community members.

RECOGNIZING MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2012

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mental Illness Awareness Week. Every year the American Psychiatric Association, the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the National Mental Health Association designate one week in October to put the spotlight on mental illness and the associated policy issues. This year we recognize this important time on October 7th through 13th.

Mental illness doesn't discriminate. One in five Americans bear mental illness, ranging from mild depression to severe disorders such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. One in five children endures a diagnosable disorder and one in ten children suffers from a serious disorder which, if unaddressed, can lead to poor school performance, social anxiety and seclusion and even violence against themselves and other people. Unfortunately, less than one-third of adults and less than half of children receive treatment for diagnosed serious disorders, leading to an average lifespan 25 years less than the general population.

Organizations like the American Psychiatric Association, the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the National Mental Health Association and their field partners work with municipal and state governments to make sure those who need care have access to it. In my district and around the country, local governments such as the Pima County Board of Supervisors are working diligently to ensure high-quality, cost-efficient community mental healthcare is available.

However, there is still much work to be done. When there is a lack of mental healthcare in a community, we see more lost jobs, more people out on the streets and more broken families. Often these communities see more emergency room visits, larger prison populations and higher social services costs all around. We must stay diligent in addressing mental illness and always stay focused on the individual.

Again, I want to recognize these organizations for their important work, and I urge those who need help to ask for it.

RECOGNIZING SISTERS FRANCIS GERARD KRESS, EDWARD JOSEPH MURPHY AND ALICE FRANCIS YOUNG ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 80TH JUBILEE

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2012

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three remarkable nuns who have dedicated their lives to helping the poor and

sick, and educating the youth of Long Island. These nuns, and the organization they are part of, represent the absolute best of all of us.

Sister Francis Gerard Kress, Sister Edward Joseph Murphy and Sister Alice Francis Young, all nuns with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood, have served the communities in my district for the past 80 years.

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood's history in America began in Carondelet, Missouri in 1936, where the Bishop called on the Sisters to establish a school for the deaf. The Congregation soon spread from Missouri, and in 1856 the Sisters were called by the Bishop of Brooklyn to come tend to the needs of the city. Mother Austin Kean, along with Sister Baptista Hanson and Sister Theodosia Hegeman, came and established what is now the Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood, New York. Since the establishment of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Brentwood order, over 2,500 Sisters have served, with 588 of those Sisters currently serving or in retirement around the United States.

All three Sisters are 80th year Jubilarians this year, and in that time have done tremendous things for our communities. Sister Edward Joseph Murphy has devoted her life to educating children, instilling in them a lifelong love of learning, as well as community service. As a part of the Order's English as a Second Language program, Sister Murphy helped some of the newest arrivals to our nation.

Sister Francis Gerard Kress has been an active proponent of the environment and health care for her 80 years in the Order, even coming here to Washington D.C. to testify before the United States House of Representatives about the environmental dangers surrounding Newton Creek in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, New York. Her work to protect our world's natural resources has helped to shed light on the importance of the Clean Water Act and other environmental protection legislation to all Americans.

Sister Alice Francis Young has dedicated her life to early childhood education, something we know is so important to the development of our young children. She helped start the first Head Start program in New York, worked as a professor of Child Study at St. Joseph's College of Brooklyn for over 40 years, and a Master Teacher there for 20 years. Sister Alice's work has impacted and bettered, both directly and indirectly, the lives of thousands of students in New York and around the country.

Mr. Speaker, I could go on and on about the accomplishments of these three amazing nuns. They have worked to protect our environment both locally and nationally, provide key support to the newest members of our communities, and educate our children. Their work has been tireless, and I sincerely appreciate it.

Mr. Speaker, these nuns have devoted their lives to bettering not just the communities in my district, but those around the nation. I would like the United States House of Representatives to recognize and honor Sisters Francis Gerard Kress, Edward Joseph Murphy and Alice Francis Young for their work, and to help me in congratulating them on their 80 year jubilees.

HONORING MS. NANCY HINDS, FOUNDER OF HINDS HOSPICE CARE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2012

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Nancy Hinds for her many years of service to our local community, our State and our Nation. As a young woman, Nancy resolved to become a nurse and spend her life caring for people. In 1981, Nancy brought her dream to fruition when she established Hinds Hospice, an organization often recognized as the premier provider of comprehensive end-of-life services in California's San Joaquin Valley. Her superior moral character and deep level of compassion truly make her a shining example of the best of what our Nation has to offer.

Nancy Hinds studied nursing at St. John's College in Cleveland, Ohio, where she developed an interest in missionary work. After working for a year in the intensive care unit at Cleveland Clinic Hospital, Nancy saved enough money to go on her first mission to the West Indies. Nancy's time as a missionary nurse in the West Indies solidified her desire to do missionary work in other parts of the world.

Following her year in West Indies, Nancy signed up with the Catholic Medical Mission Board. She was assigned to Nigeria, West Africa, providing aid to malnourished and neglected children. In 1969, Nancy met her future husband, Godfrey Hinds, a missionary doctor who had been in Africa for 20 years. They shared a deep love and affection for each other and held a high regard for a life of service. After Nancy finished her tour in Nigeria, she reunited with Godfrey in Ireland and the two were married. Nancy and Godfrey spent the following years of their lives doing missionary work while starting a family at the same time. They had three sons: Sean, Conor, and Patrick.

The strength and courage that Nancy possesses has helped her during the extremely difficult struggles in her life. Godfrey passed away from an untreatable cancer in March 1977, and months later her mother lost her battle with breast cancer. As a widow with three small children, Nancy pushed through and thrived without two of the most important people in her life.

After three years of living on her own in Ireland, she moved to Fresno, California near her father and brother. Nancy worked as an oncology nurse at St. Agnes Medical Center, and then decided it would be best to work from home so she could be with her boys. Nancy opened her first hospice home on Simpson Avenue in Fresno in 1981. The Simpson home provided care for over 72 patients and their families during the next four years. Unfortunately, in 1985 the home was forced to close by the Department of Health due to lack of a license to operate. No license of that kind was in existence in California.

For the next two years, Nancy fought for the right legislation to be created and finally obtained a license to provide quality, in-home, end-of-life hospice care. In 1987, she opened the second Hinds Hospice home. Clearly, Nancy's tenacity and perseverance made her